

Message

From: Smith, Walker [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=FA49E9249F124B5FB3EAAE038278D6F6-WSMITH07]
Sent: 3/29/2020 2:56:02 PM
To: Kovner, Karissa [Kovner.Karissa@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: OCSPP input for USMCA assessment report to Congress

Hi Karissa,

Now I have a few minutes to respond. Work seems even crazier with telework. Constant incomings. Just fyi I was already working on changing the timing and requirements of the gaps writeup when you sent your email. I am also working on avoiding a repeat situation.

I hope you and Mark and the kids are doing ok. You are a kinder person than you give yourself credit for – driving your

Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

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I am know there are lots of people in that situation. It is scary when much of our health system is basically not functioning. We are trying to be super careful about things so there are no sprains, broken bones, cuts, etc. I have zero zero zero desire to end up in an emergency room.

I heard from Marianne and she is doing well in Geneva. A nice apartment with a pizza place across the street. That would not be a good situation for me. I don't want to come out on the other side of this being enormous.

Stay in touch.

*Walker B. Smith
Director
Office of Global Affairs and Policy
Office of International and Tribal Affairs
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
202.564.4044*

From: Kovner, Karissa <Kovner.Karissa@epa.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 27, 2020 9:39 AM
To: Smith, Walker <Smith.Walker@epa.gov>
Subject: Fwd: OCSPP input for USMCA assessment report to Congress

Hi — so I appreciate very much your efforts to shield OCSPP from ridiculous timeframes. Thank you. I mean that very much. You're a good barometer for your leadership, I hope they know that!

My guess, however, is that the real issue is not Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP) or Ashley's Friday off, but rather a Chad issue. Can you tell me when you guys really need this? Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

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I'm not saying we can't get this done, but Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP) where we have a big call with USTR at 4 today and then need to write our memo to Alex for Wheeler on that, I'm not sure I feel comfortable asking Ashley to spend her weekend on a Chad timing problem. We sent these two issues for the environmental review to OITA almost two weeks ago, maybe more, in fact. Why are we getting so little time to turn these around? Perhaps I could be more sympathetic if I understood the timing better — which is why I'm sending this just to you?

Thanks,
Karissa

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Kovner, Karissa" <Kovner.Karissa@epa.gov>
Date: March 27, 2020 at 9:11:14 AM EDT
To: "Muehling, Brian" <Muehling.Brian@epa.gov>
Cc: "Nelsen, Ashley" <Nelsen.Ashley@epa.gov>, "Almodovar, Lisa" <Almodovar.Lisa@epa.gov>, "Finman, Hodayah" <Finman.Hodayah@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: OCSPP input for USMCA assessment report to Congress

We'll touch base this morning and get back to you. It's probably a mix of both #1 and #2. They are closely related.

On timing, we'll do our best. Alex has an issue front and center with the Administrator on Monday morning that she has asked us to work on today and both Ashley and I have several hours of medical appts. today from the mid-morning to mid-afternoon.

On the template, you are likely going to need to engage your own CEC or Mexico experts to assist with your middle item as we are not going to be familiar enough with the nitty-gritty details of Mexican law and infrastructure. We can tell you where the problems are and what the trade impacts are, but presumably USTR will need to use its own expertise and review writing team, building on what we provide and what your office might need to expand on for us, to flesh out.

Will do our best, of course.

Thanks,
Karissa

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 27, 2020, at 8:47 AM, Muehling, Brian <Muehling.Brian@epa.gov> wrote:

Ashley and Karissa,

I presume you will work from item #1 below in your one pager on MX chems/pesticides issues for the assessment/gap report due to Congress. Correct?

Thanks,
Brian

From: Nelsen, Ashley <Nelsen.Ashley@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 18, 2020 8:06 AM
To: Muehling, Brian <Muehling.Brian@epa.gov>; Ferland, Henry <Ferland.Henry@epa.gov>

Subject: OCSPP USMCA Implementation

Importance: High

Good morning Brian,

Below are the issues OCSPP has flagged that may hinder the effective implementation of USMCA. USTR should be aware of these issues as well, but always important to put them in writing. If USTR needs additional information I am happy to provide more detail.

1. **World Trade Organization (WTO) Sanitary Phytosanitary (SPS) & WTO Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Agreements**

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

2. **Reminder to adhere to International Environmental Agreements**

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Thank you,

Ashley Nelsen
International Trade Specialist SPS/TBT
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